

MILITARY & COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



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Soldier & Family Assistance Branch

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OVERVIEW



- What is an SFA?
- SFA Programs
- Military & Community Partnerships

WHAT IS AN SFA?



- Each Battalion in USAREC has a Soldier & Family Assistance Program Manager (SFA)
- We are the equivalent to Army Community Services (ACS) staff and act as a mini ACS
- Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinator (BCAC) for TRICARE
- SFA \neq FRSA (Family Readiness Support Assistant)
- Toll-free number for all SFAs: 800-790-0963, plus Brigade number then select Battalion

SFA PROGRAMS

- Certified Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinator (BCAC) for TRICARE
 - Liaison between the Soldier/Family Member & TRICARE
 - Claims resolution
 - Enrollment assistance
 - Briefings for the Soldier/Family Member at in-processing and annually-usually ATC
- Dental Program
 - Enrollment assistance
 - Active Duty Dental Program (ADDP) for remote Soldiers
 - Claims resolution



SFA PROGRAMS

- Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)
 - Enrollment/disenrollment assistance
 - Liaison with ACS EFMP staff
 - EFMP Stabilization
 - Respite Care
 - Coordinate with USAREC EFMP Systems Navigators
 - EFMP System Navigators are available to provide referrals and resources, as well as advocate for your family.
 - 1st & 2nd Brigades and MRB contact Mr. Edward “Dwight” Wiggins: edward.d.wiggins4.ctr@mail.mil or 502-626-1080
 - 3rd, 5th, & 6th Brigades contact Ms. Emily Hay, Emily.g.hay2.ctr@mail.mil or 502-626-2015



SFA PROGRAMS

○ Relocation Assistance

- My Installation via Military OneSource
- BN Newcomers Orientation
- In/out processing
- Sponsorship
- Spouse employment



○ Financial Readiness

- Emergency Assistance- AER/Red Cross
- Referral to appropriate financial counselors

○ Army Family Team Building (AFTB)

○ Army Family Action Plan (AFAP)



SFA PROGRAMS

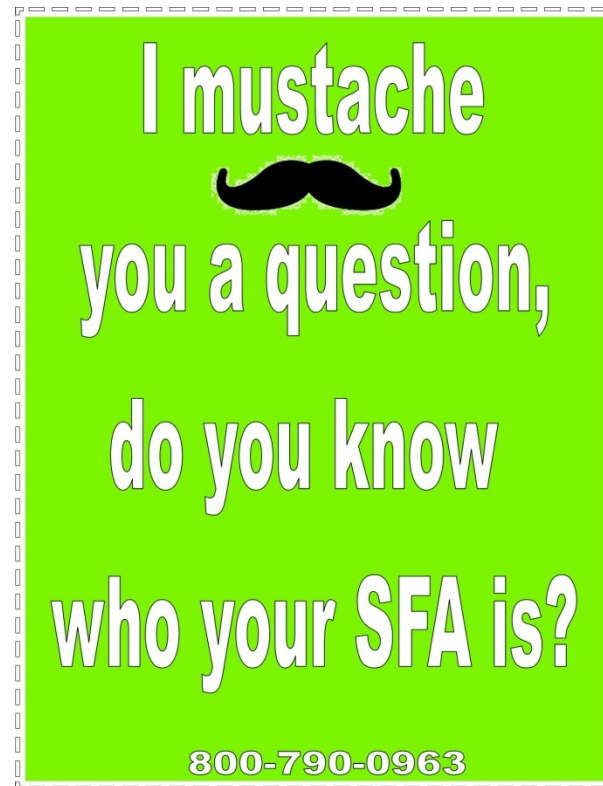
- Volunteer Program
 - Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS)
 - Army Volunteer Corps Coordinator (AVCC)
 - Recognition
 - Training
- Family Advocacy
 - Crisis Intervention
 - Linking Commanders and 1SGs
- Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE)



SFA PROGRAMS



- Social Media

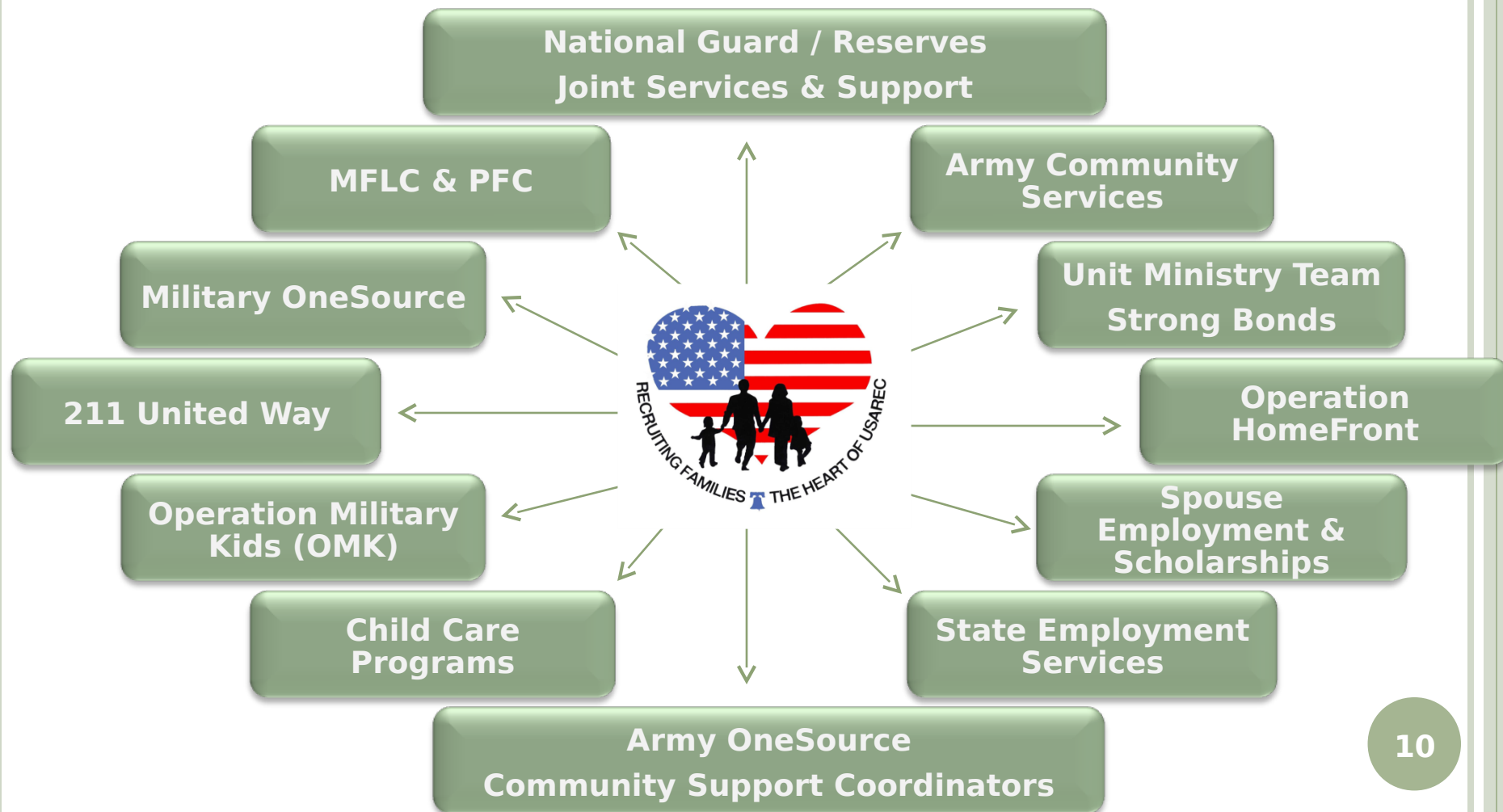


SFA PROGRAMS

- Education Assistance
 - Scholarship information/resources
 - GI Bill assistance
 - Tutor.com
- Child Care Assistance
 - Army Fee Assistance
 - SitterCity
- Family Readiness Group (FRG)-**Commander's Program**
 - SFAs provide training & guidance
- Family Strong Resource Guide (There's an APP for that!)
- Information & Referral...



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- National Guard/Reserves: Joint Services Support
 - Behavioral Health
 - Employment Readiness
 - Strong Bonds
 - Reintegration Training
 - Financial Assistance
 - Chaplain support

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- Installation Community/Family Support Centers

- Army Community Service



- Airman & Family Readiness Center



- Fleet & Family Services



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- Coordinate with IMCOM & HQ USAREC
 - Military & Family Life Consultant
 - Short-term solution focused, non-medical counseling
 - Personal Financial Counselor
 - Debt reduction, security clearance issues, car/home buying, college planning, retirement planning
 - Army Fee Assistance Child Care Program
 - Created to assist Army Sponsors with the cost of off-post child care, allowing Families to pay fees comparable to those charged at an installation.
 - Spouse needs to be working or in school full time or looking for employment
 - 5 hours respite care, available every month

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○ Unit Ministry Team

● Strong Bonds Events:



- Marriage Retreat-focuses on strengthening marital bonds and communication tools
- Family Wellness Retreat-focuses on effective communication and listening skills for both parents and children
- Single Soldier Retreat-focuses on the skills of building great relationships and personal development
- Alpha- 4 hours Strong Bonds Curriculum-can conduct as requested at company trainings
- Bravo- 8 hours Strong Bonds Curriculum (not typically conducted in USAREC due to geographical dispersement)
- Charlie- 12 hours Strong Bonds Curriculum performed over a weekend (Friday/Saturday/Sunday) at an offsite location

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○ Military OneSource

- Confidential Department of Defense-funded program providing comprehensive information on **every aspect of military life** at no cost to active duty, National Guard, and reserve members, and their families
- Information includes, but is not limited to, **deployment, reunion, relationships, grief, spouse employment and education, parenting and childhood services**. It is a virtual extension to installation services
- Counseling services: short-term solution focused, non-medical counseling with a provider in your area



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- Army OneSource
 - Community Support Coordinators
 - Family Programs & Services:
 - Health Care
 - Soldier & Family Housing
 - Child Youth & School Services
 - Education & Careers
 - Recreation, Travel & BOSS
 - Communities & Marketplace
 - FRG
 - Volunteer Management
 - AFTB (online)
 - Etc.



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○ 211 United Way



- United Way has become synonymous with caring and helping children, families and individuals. They have a long tradition of helping people with basic needs – food, clothing, shelter and safety – and changing lives through strong, well-managed programs. United Way is also engaging the community to get to the heart of problems.
- As of February 2014 all 50 states are covered plus Washington DC & Puerto Rico
- There are specific pots of money for the Military
- Available to everyone

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- Operation Military Kids
 - **Operation: Military Kids** is the U.S. Army's collaborative effort with America's communities to support children and youth impacted by deployment.
 - **OMK Program Delivery System includes four components:**
 - Academic Support, Mentoring, and Intervention Services
 - Arts, Recreation, and Leisure Activities
 - Life Skills, Citizenship, and Leadership Opportunities
 - Sports, Fitness, and Health Options

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- Spouse Employment
 - Employment Partnership of the Armed Forces
 - Military Spouse Employment Partnership
 - Military Spouse Corporate Career Network
 - SECO
 - Milicruit
 - Hero to Hired
 - USA Jobs
 - Spouse Licensure Portability- USA4MilitaryFamilies
 - State Employment Services
 - Cover some child care costs
 - Provide education or training
 - Veterans employment assistance
 - Military Spouse unemployment benefits

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- Spouse Scholarships:
 - National Military Family Association-Joanne Holbrook Military Spouse Scholarship
 - MyCAA
 - Army Emergency Relief (AER)
 - Fisher House Foundation
 - Career One Stop
 - Commissary Scholarship Program
 - Saban Military Spouse Educational Scholarship
 - Thanks USA
 - Pat Tillman Foundation
 - Military Officers Association of America
 - Army Scholarship Foundation

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○ Other:

- Legal Support Office (LSO)
- USO
- Defense Centers of Excellence (DCEs)
- Red Cross
- School Liaison Officer
- Real Warriors
- Operation HomeFront
- Texas Veterans Commission
- Boys & Girls Club
- Blue Star Families



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- Questions???